

(c) the alternative measures to be taken for monitoring and ensuring compliance of the service standards and aeronautical charges at airports in the light of the privatisation process?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Creation of a statutory airport regulatory authority called Airport Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA) for limited economic regulation of airports within the overall framework of the draft Civil Aviation Policy is under consideration.

VRS in Air India

4116. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India has turned around and has approved VRS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have evolved any time-frame to implement VRS; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the future plans of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d) The proposal of Voluntary Retirement Scheme for employess of Air India has been approved by its Board and is under consideration of the Government.

Airlines Pilots leaving for green pastures abroad

4117. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that once again after years of stability, Airlines pilots are beginning to leave for green pastures abroad;

(b) whether this is inspite of the relatively huge salaries being paid to pilots in India;

(c) whether Government are considering to use bilateral rights to dissuade foreign carriers from encouraging pilots to join them; and

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(d) if so, what action Government are taking to retain its pilots who have been trained by our airlines at huge costs?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) In the year 2000, 12 pilots of Indian Airlines submitted their resignations and 1 pilot of Air India resigned. Service matters of private airlines are not regulated by Government.

(b) Salaries of pilots of foreign airlines are higher as compared to the salaries of pilots of Indian Airlines and Air India. Salaries are among other things also linked to so many economic variables of any country.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) To encourage retention of pilots measure are taken by the Airlines to provide incentives and seek execution of bond.

Completion of Guwahati Airport

4118. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the standard criteria for considering an airport as model airport and facilities required to be made available at such airports;

(b) whether construction of Guwahati Airport terminal building has been completed in all respect;

(c) if so, whether quality of work has been assessed;

(d) the list of facilities already created and those yet to be made;

(e) the construction defects, if any, and the remedial measures taken;

(f) whether Guwahati Airport has already started functioning as customs airport; and

(g) if not, the target date set for the same?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) The standard criteria adopted for development of Model Airports are as under:

— Terminal building capable of handling minimum 500